

THE CITIZEN

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U.S. Army Garrison Stuttgart

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Stuttgart, Oberammergau and Garmisch, Germany

Play Ball!



*U.S., German
squads square off
on Patch Barracks
— Page 14 —*

Hugh C. McBride

German "Jonsey" Brunswick of the Sindelfingen Squirrels takes a cut during the Squirrels' May 17 game against Stuttgart's Child and Youth Services Sports and Fitness Senior Level Team on Patch Barracks's Husky Field. The game, which Dr. Joachim Wolf of the City of Sindelfingen termed "a significant contribution to strengthen our German-American friendship," was part of the U.S. Army Garrison Stuttgart's outreach effort to strengthen bonds with local host-nation communities.

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Stay smart, safe this summer

McKiernan emphasizes risk management to ensure troops, civilians 'Own the Edge'

By Gen. David D. McKiernan
U.S. Army, Europe

Our deployed personnel are confronted with unique challenges every day, many of which stretch the limits of current Army doctrine. They must routinely perform operations "on the edge."

These operations require immediate, on-the-spot decision-making skills. Their decisions may very well determine the success or failure of the mission.

For this reason, leaders and Soldiers must be knowledgeable and confident in making the right decisions when balancing the risks against mission accomplishment.

To help modern leaders and Soldiers make informed choices, the United States Army Combat Readiness Center developed a campaign called *Own the Edge*.

This campaign, which is available at <https://crc.army.mil/readiness/>, acknowledges the risks associated with our operations, helps individuals define which risks are acceptable and unacceptable, and promotes modifying our operations as necessary to manage those risks and "own the edge."

This process of managing risk is known as Composite Risk Management (CRM).

CRM widens our focus on accidents to include all sources of loss, since losing combat power to enemy action is no different than losing combat power in an accident.

Historically, we have lost more of our Soldiers to accidents than we have to enemy action. CRM involves the same five-step risk-management process, but the concentration is now on all losses – tactical, accidental, and on and off duty.

The Army's campaign aims at getting the CRM message

Historically, we have lost more of our Soldiers to accidents than we have to enemy action. Identify the edge and ways to avoid going over it, learn to be adaptive and innovative, and recommit yourself to doing what it takes to stay alive. Own the edge!

down to first-line supervisors and individual Soldiers. CRM enables Soldiers to own the edge, no matter where they are in the fight, by teaching them how, instead of what, to think and challenging them to be smart when it comes to managing risk.

When Soldiers wake up each day – whether in combat, training, or off duty – we want them to ask themselves one simple question: "What could take me or my buddies out of the fight today?"

If you are fighting in Iraq or Afghanistan, it could be the enemy. However, if you are driving during the upcoming 4-day weekend, it could be alcohol, fatigue, or speed.

No matter what the threat may be, the most effective way to counter it is CRM.

Memorial Day marked the traditional beginning of summer, which is historically the most dangerous time of year in the Army in Europe.

This is a perfect opportunity for each of us to implement CRM in our daily activities. In doing so, we should concentrate on our main causes of serious injuries and fatalities, and be aware of the increased likelihood of these accidents when

alcohol is involved:

- Motor-vehicle crashes.
- Drownings in unapproved swimming areas.
- Falls from balconies and windows, and down stairwells.
- Being struck by trains or motor vehicles.

Over the upcoming months, I ask you to consider the consequences of your actions and watch out for your battle buddies, family members, and friends.

We must think of what we can do to keep ourselves and our comrades safe and combat-ready.

Whatever your plans are for the holiday weekend, take time to remember those who have made the ultimate sacrifice in the service of our great Nation.

Identify the edge and ways to avoid going over it, learn to be adaptive and innovative, and recommit yourself to doing what it takes to stay alive. *Own the edge!*

McKiernan is commander of U.S. Army, Europe, and 7th Army. This excerpt is from McKiernan Sends #10-06, which can be accessed online at www.hqusareur.army.mil.

THE CITIZEN

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www.stuttgart.army.mil

Safety lesson can come in a flash

By CWO4 Michael Licholat
Commentary

In the spirit of accident prevention, sometimes we have to step up to the plate and take one for the team. Here's my humbling story, shared with a bit of humor.

There I was, five minutes away from delivering a briefing for a complicated air assault mission in support of Operation Enduring Freedom. I had only one chance to make a good first impression in front of our coalition brethren, so I was determined to put my best foot forward.

With my notes at hand and the backup butcher posters and imagery, I was confident I could ace this brief even if the Proxima projector failed.

The projector had been warming up for a few minutes when I noticed there was some dust on the lens. Well, I wasn't going to stand for having a few specks casting shadows on my briefing! So, I went to the supply locker that our company S-4 dutifully kept stocked with administration supplies and got a can of compressed air to shoo away the offending motes.

We'd bought cases of the stuff before we deployed to blow the dirt and dust out of the cooling fans and circuit boards of our mission planning computers.

However, our resourceful S-4 had replaced those with some canned air he'd bought in theater. I think it was from Italy, or somewhere else in Europe. Not being multi-lingual, I wasn't able to read the label.

I wasn't going to be bothered by that. I took the little plastic tube that came with the can and stuck it into the spray nozzle. I was thinking pleasant thoughts about how clear my presentation was going to be as I pointed the tube at the projector's lens. Those were my last pleasant thoughts.

I pushed down on the spray nozzle when suddenly there was a low-pitched boom. I was instantly engulfed in a ball of flame that one eyewitness conservatively estimated to be a good 6 feet in diameter. All the hair on my right arm was burned off, and the hair on my face was singed. Stunned, I dropped

the can. The valve popped shut and the fire went out as quickly as it appeared.

After performing a quick assessment of my injuries, I left the briefing area for the tent where I slept, seeking a mirror so I could look for any additional damage.

At my tent, my worst fears were confirmed—my moustache was now much shorter (but in direct compliance with AR 670-1!), my eyelashes were almost gone, and my eyebrow hairs were all curled up.

I quickly washed up, used a pair of scissors to trim the burnt ends off my moustache and eyebrows, and then returned to the podium with a couple of minutes to spare.

Now I don't recommend this to anyone, but if you want to be calm when delivering a mission briefing, seek the feeling of euphoria that comes with no longer being a human torch.

So, how can you avoid having this happen to you? Most, if not all, of the canned air sold in America is non-flammable and has warning labels to keep you from misusing the product. However, since we'd used up the "good stuff" we'd brought with us, the S-4 – who is habitually browbeaten to keep the cupboards from becoming bare – replaced it with whatever was closest at hand.

Unfortunately, the S-4 couldn't read the label either. That's something to bear in mind if you're buying in countries that lack the consumer protection guidelines we have in America.

In the end, the fault lay squarely on my shoulders. I took an aerosol can of unknown origin and sprayed it onto a projector containing a very hot light bulb, which provided a source of ignition.

In the end, I got lucky and avoided a serious burn by the hair of my chinny, chin ... uh oh ... those chin hairs are gone now. In the spirit of brotherhood, my comrades later hung a sign over my desk extolling my new nickname: "Flash! Do you mind if I smoke?"

This commentary originally appeared on the Army News Web site (www.army.mil/arnews).

Memorial Day 2006

Stuttgart honors service members who made 'ultimate sacrifice'

Story and photos by Hugh C. McBride

Members of the Stuttgart military community gathered in the Patch Barracks Chapel May 29 to pay tribute to the more than one million U.S. service members who have died while serving their nation.

"[Memorial Day] is a day to remember those who have fallen to preserve our way of life – the American way of life," said Michael Sloan, commander of the American Legion Stuttgart Post 6, which sponsored the ceremony. "For a brief moment in history, they held our nation's destiny in their hands. They did not fail – and we must not fail them."

The featured speaker at the event was Col. Brian D. Perry Sr., the senior military historian with the U.S. European Command History Office. Perry said he wrote his remarks with Soldiers such as his 19-year-old son, an Army Ranger currently serving downrange, in mind.

"I tried to think of a message I could send him, and others who are in harm's way, as well as to those of us on the home front," Perry said. "I looked back in history to define a message that would tell my son – as well as your son, daughter, father, mother or other loved ones – that they are not alone."

The result of this effort was a series of "messages" from Medal of Honor recipients and other war heroes from the Civil War to the sands of Iraq.

One such message evoked the memory of Staff Sgt. Jonah Kelley, who was awarded the Medal of Honor posthumously for his service during World War II: "In 1941, we thought America was untouchable. In 2001, you thought the same thing. We laid down our lives to fight a dictator and to provide freedom for others in a far-off land."

As Stuttgart VFW Post 10810 Commander Donald Owens noted, it is this continuity that gives special meaning to Memorial Day. "Those we honor today are not strangers," he said. "They were our neighbors – citizens and Soldiers."



[Above] Gary Miller of the American Legion Stuttgart Post 6 salutes the colors at the start of the May 29 Memorial Day ceremony in the Patch Chapel.

[Right] With Patch High School JROTC Honor Guard member Reuben Merkes standing at attention in the foreground, Col. Brian D. Perry Sr. of the U.S. European Command History Office recounts moments of military valor and heroism from throughout the nation's history.



Summer Hire among programs impacted by cost-reduction measures

U.S. Army Garrison Stuttgart
Public Affairs Office Release

As a result of guidance from the vice chief of staff of the Army and Headquarters, Installation Management Agency, IMA-Europe has implemented a number of cost-saving measures designed to minimize impact to the Army mission while sustaining the Global War on Terror.

One of the IMA-EURO directives is a theaterwide postponement of the Summer Hire program until funding becomes available.

"The Army and the other services are engaged in a long and costly war on terrorism. We owe it to our troops to ensure they have everything they need to defeat the enemy," said IMA-EURO Region Director Russell B. Hall.

"The money we get for installations is being prioritized so that support to the war and Army transformation are adequately funded," Hall said.

According to a May 31 IMA-EURO press release, the suspension of the Summer Hire program is part of an extensive cost-reduction plan that includes a hiring freeze, the release of a number of temporary and term employees, a review of contract positions, and significant curtailment of temporary deployments, training, incentive awards and Government Purchase Cards.

"The entire IMA leadership is committed to applying all available community assets to ensure these actions cause the least amount of disruption," Hall said. "We are announcing these actions as early as possible to allow our affected employees and their families to prepare."

For the most current available information about the IMA-EURO cost-reduction plans access the following resources:

- IMA-EURO Web site: www.ima-e.army.mil
- USAG Stuttgart Web site: www.stuttgart.army.mil
- Stuttgart Community Post
- Future editions of The Citizen

News & Notes

Baseball Clinics on Patch

Stuttgart Youth Sports and Fitness is hosting free baseball clinics (sponsored by the Major League Baseball Envoy Program) June 8 and 9 on Patch Barracks.

These two-hour clinics will focus on fundamental skills, rules understanding and the development of a positive attitude and good sportsmanship.

Two clinics will be held each day: 3 p.m. to 5 p.m. (for ages 6 to 12) and 7 to 9 p.m. (for ages 12 to 18).

For more information call Mark Juliano at 431-2616/civ. 07031-15-2616.

Swim lessons in Stuttgart

The U.S. Army Garrison Stuttgart Child and Youth Services will offer summer swim lessons with certified instructors during July and August.

All CYS-registered children 18 months and above are eligible. The program offers six different levels ranging from beginning to advanced swimmers.

Cost is \$50 per child, and registration takes place in the CYS Central Registration Office.

For more information call 430-7483/civ. 0711-680-7483.

Story Time at Patch Library

The Patch Barracks Library hosts Preschool Story Time every Thursday at 11:45 a.m. until 12:30 p.m.

Each event features a story, an age-appropriate craft project and a snack.

For information call 430-7138/civ. 0711-680-7138.

Volunteer opportunities abound

• The **Stuttgart Girl Scout Neighborhood** is in need of volunteers to help with its summer day camp, tentatively scheduled for Aug. 21 to 25, with sleepover nights Aug. 23 and 24.

Military members may apply for permissive TDY status during the camp. The camp will have an outdoor skills theme and is in especially in need of lifeguards.

For more information contact Eric Warner, camp director, at 430-4927/civ. 0711-680-4927 or e-mail warnere@eucom.mil.

• Do you have the time and the desire to help service members and their families get the most out of their time in Europe? If so, the **Stuttgart USO** can use your help.

Call the USO at 430-5559/civ. 0711-680-5559 or visit office (Patch Barracks, building 2307) and pick up a volunteer application.

• For more information about volunteer opportunities in Stuttgart call Army Community Service at 430-7176/civ. 0711-680-7176.

Scramble in Kornwestheim

The Stuttgart Golf Club in Kornwestheim hosts a 9-hole scramble every Wednesday starting at 5:30 p.m. throughout the season.

Play with your own team or they will pair you up with others. For more information call 07141-879-151.

Stuttgart German-American Chorus

The Stuttgart German-American Community Chorus meets Mondays, 7:30 to 9:30 p.m., in the Robinson Barracks Chapel Annex.

The group sings classical, pop, folk and more – and is a great way to meet new friends and share your vocal talents with the community.

For more information call Kathleen at 0711-469-0313.

Shape Up with Jazzercise

When you love your workout, results come easy. Jazzercise blends aerobics, yoga, Pilates, and kickboxing movements into fun dance routines set to fresh new music. All fitness levels are welcome.

• Kelley Fitness Center: Mondays, Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays, 6 p.m.

• Patch Fitness Center: Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays, 8:30 a.m.

• Panzer Fitness Center: Tuesdays and Thursdays, 8:30 a.m. and Wednesdays, 10:30 a.m.

For more information call 430-5386 or 0711-120-2025, 07157-98-9527 or 07158-987-6196.

Leaving the military? Call us first!

Avoid separation anxiety. Call the Stuttgart Army Career Alumni Program at 431-2191/civ. 07031-15-2191 for your pre-separation briefing.



Sue Ferrare



Hugh C. McBride

[Above] U.S. Army Garrison Stuttgart Commander Col. Kenneth G. Juergens presents gifts of appreciation to Aumua Amata Radewagen during Stuttgart's May 19 celebration.

[Left] Radewagen addresses attendees at Garmisch's May 16 Asian-Pacific-American heritage event.



Hugh C. McBride

[Left] Stuttgart-Möhringen Regional Director Jürgen Lohmann samples some of the many delicacies available at the May 19 event.

[Below] Area martial artists from a variety of age ranges put their skills on display during the Asian-Pacific-American celebration on Patch.



Hugh C. McBride

Garmisch, Stuttgart celebrate Asian-Pacific-American heritage

By Hugh C. McBride

U.S. Army Garrisons Stuttgart and Garmisch celebrated Asian-Pacific-American Heritage Month with on-post celebrations that emphasized the cultural interconnectedness that is the foundation of life in an overseas military community.

Garmisch's May 16 ceremony and the Stuttgart celebration that followed three days later both treated community members to a glimpse – and a taste – of the rich heritage of the diverse peoples who comprise the Asian-Pacific culture.

"[Asian-Pacific-Americans] need to take this opportunity to showcase ourselves and our contributions to our country," said Aumua Amata Radewagen, the Republican National Committeewoman for American Samoa who served as the featured speaker at both ceremonies.

"We have contributed greatly to the strength and diversity of the United States," Radewagen said. "We are proud of our heritage

and we are proud Americans at the same time."

In Stuttgart, the event took on an even greater cultural significance with the presence of several guests from local German communities.

A group of students from Vaihingen's Hegel-Gymnasium participated in the ceremony, as did representatives from area governments, including the following Dr. Martin Schairer, deputy to Lord Mayor Wolfgang Schuster of Stuttgart; Roland Klenk, lord mayor of Leinfelden-Echterdingen; Jürgen Lohmann, regional director for Stuttgart-Möhringen, and Wolfgang Meinhardt, regional director for Stuttgart-Vaihingen.

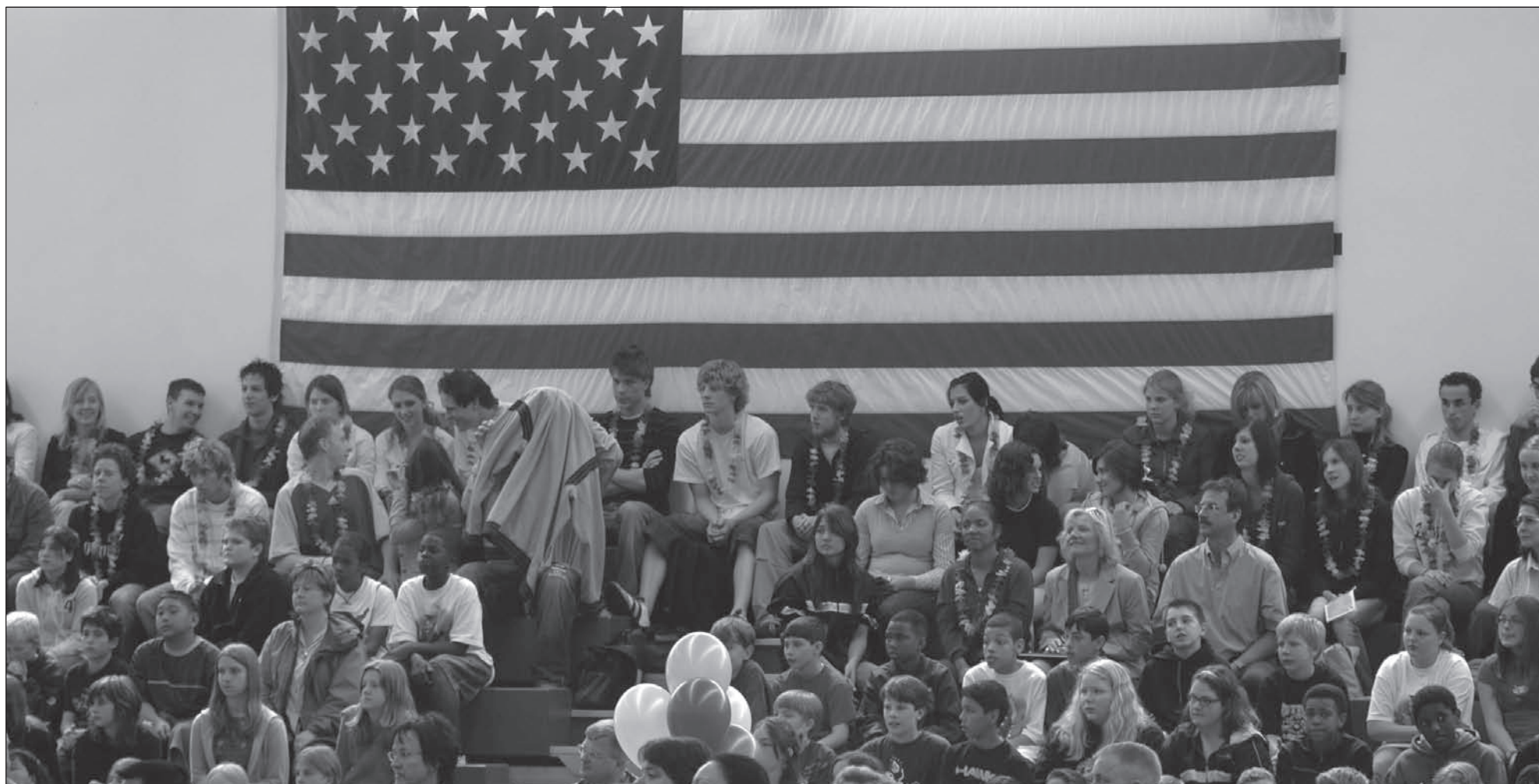
In addition to welcoming all of the invited guests and attendees, U.S. Army Garrison Stuttgart Commander Col. Kenneth G. Juergens also presented gifts of appreciation to Radewagen and the Hegel-Gymnasium student group.

For more see **Asian-Pacific** Page 5



Cultural entertainment at the May 19 event included traditional dances from Hawaii, Korea, Tahiti and the Philippines.

Hugh C. McBride



[Above] German and American students enjoy the May 19 Asian-Pacific-American Heritage Month celebration on Patch Barracks

[Left] Stuttgart's Katherine Balanza smiles during a performance of a traditional dance at the celebration, which was held in the Patch Fitness Center



Cultural celebration culmination of concerted community effort

Asian-Pacific from page 4

But though the event drew from many cultures – Juergens noted that it could not have come together as successfully as it did without a concerted effort from within the Stuttgart military community.

In the stands at the event, students from Patch Barracks mingled with their host-nation counterparts, while throughout the gymnasium community members labored to create a memorable, entertaining and educational afternoon for those who attended.

The following groups and individuals were among those who were noted for their efforts:

- USAG Stuttgart EO, EEO and planning committee
- Capt. Charmaine Valmonte of EUCOM
- Command Sgt. Maj. Charles Tobin of the EUCOM Commandant's Office
- USAG Stuttgart Chaplain Lt. Col. Gary Norris

- The EUCOM color guard
- The 52nd Signal Battalion
- Jennifer Buxkemper and Danielle Torrey, who sang the German and U.S. national anthems
- Katherine Balanza and Joann Dedrick-Cabalar
- USAG Stuttgart DPTMS Graphics Section
- Kim Anderson and Stuttgart's DeCA team.
- Lee Muslin and the area's AAFES employees
- MWR Marketing and Outdoor Recreation
- Training Support Service
- USAG Stuttgart Provost Marshal's office
- The area's installation coordinators
- Stuttgart USO and Stahle Car Rental
- The Gussy Goose and the Stuttgart Frame Shop
- USAG Stuttgart Youth Services
- The Patch and Kelley community clubs
- Cultural dance troupes: Ohana O'ka Aina Mau Loa, Philippine Pearl, Hannuri and Polynesian Dancers



U.S. Army MWR presents
Soldier Show 2006
 Reveille: Answering the Call

Panzer Kaserne Fitness Center
June 23 – 7:30 p.m.

Army entertainment at its finest
Free to all U.S. identification cardholders



Euro-Atlantic Perspectives on the Role of Military Forces in Homeland Security

Marshall Center conference explores military's role in domestic security issues

By Joseph Ferrare

George C. Marshall European Center for Security Studies

Twenty-nine nations of the trans-Atlantic community took a first step toward hammering out an understanding of when and how to use military forces to secure the homeland during a three-day conference that was held on Garmisch's Sheridan Kaserne and sponsored by the George C. Marshall European Center for Security Studies.

More than 100 national representatives, speakers, observers and organizers met in the Edelweiss Lodge & Resort May 22 to 24 for the Euro-Atlantic Perspectives on the Role of Military Forces in Homeland Security conference.

The event was organized by the Marshall Center in cooperation with the Office of the Assistant Secretary of Defense for Homeland Defense and the Strategic Studies Institute of the U.S. Army War College.

A first step toward safety

The common understanding participants strove during the conference for is the first step toward making all nations safer, said conference moderator Dr. Jack Clarke.

"We're trying to build a trans-Atlantic community of expertise in homeland defense, and this is a start," Clarke said. "We're trying to understand how different countries employ military forces in dealing with domestic emergencies and domestic contingencies. This is an opportunity for both sides of the Atlantic to learn from one another."

To that end participants heard speakers and panel members explore European and U.S. traditions, as well as those of the former Soviet states in attendance.

Understanding those diverse backgrounds is important because a unified community of nations is something terrorists and others actively target," Clarke said.

"All of us have come to realize that security is all too divisible in the world we live in today. By that I mean terrorists and others understand that they can make people think they can be more secure when they do not join in alliances. We want to ensure that security remains indivisible, and therefore we work together for the same kinds of cooperative security goals."

Even discussing the same subject with participants from countries ranging from the U.S. to Estonia and Georgia brings is a challenge, Clarke said.

"Sure, 30 different nations can be a management challenge, but I think this has worked really, really well, because...regardless of where they're from, they're all in the same business," he said.

"Granted, not all of them get a chance to talk and tell us how they do it in their country, but that's not really the goal. The goal is that you get exposed to different ideas and you take them back and you try to integrate them as appropriate to your planning process, or your strategic concept," he said.

A range of ideas

Different ideas were not in short supply, Clarke added.

"I would say that one of the biggest differences is that some

'We're trying to understand how different countries employ military forces in dealing with domestic emergencies and domestic contingencies.

This is an opportunity for both sides of the Atlantic to learn from one another.

Dr. Jack Clarke

Conference Moderator

countries in Europe have specialized forces to deal with a lot of these kinds of issues, and others don't," he said. "Countries like France and Italy and Spain have what we call paramilitary police forces, like the gendarmerie. They're particularly well-suited to dealing with a broad range of homeland security and homeland defense tasks.

"In the United States, we have the National Guard. That's a completely different kind of organization that doesn't exist anywhere in Europe, where the state governor has control of his own military forces," Clarke said.

A variety of scenarios

With all those differences in mind, conference organizers and speakers asked participants to look into the future and contemplate homeland security challenges their nations might face.

"We've looked at things like, what's the role of the military in managing bird flu?" Clarke said. "How would the military respond to a dirty bomb attack?"

"We've also looked at the different kinds of stratagems – strategic approaches. We heard from the British about their resiliency strategy, and then we compared that to the homeland security strategy of the United States and found a lot of areas of commonality, but found some important differences," Clarke reported.

Studying the different approaches is important because the threats nations face have become global, according to Peter F. Verga, the Principal Deputy Assistant to the Secretary of Defense for Homeland Defense.

"Transnational flows aid the acceleration of disease transmission, terrorism, proliferation of advanced weapons and Weapons of Mass Destruction materials and extremist ideologies," Verga said.

"All free nations – including their citizens, territory and infrastructure – are vulnerable to these threats. These challenges, in both the security environment and the diluted concept of sovereignty, argue for identifying new ways of cooperating with our allies and partners."

A new understanding

Participants found those new ways by sharing examples and ideas, bringing forth a new understanding, Clarke said.

"Definitions are clearly important, but a conference like this makes it clear to the participants that, regardless of what defini-



Photo: Karlheinz Wedhorn

General Roland Ertl, the Republic of Austria's chief of defense staff, delivers his keynote address at the three-day Euro-Atlantic Perspectives on the Role of Military Forces in Homeland Security conference. More than 100 national representatives from 29 nations took part in the event, which was designed to promote a common understanding of issues related to domestic security.

tions you use, we're doing the same kinds of things. And that's a particularly important aspect of the conference, is that at the end of the day people can say 'hey, they may call it homeland security and we may call it internal security, but...it's the same thing,'" Clarke explained.

Bill Bann, a representative from the Office of the Assistant Secretary of Defense for Homeland Defense told participants that reaching the state of a common understanding is the beginning of greater security for all.

"I would recommend to you that you build on the knowledge that you gained here, maintain the contacts that we've made...so that we don't just leave this here, that we build upon this. I think it makes us stronger as a nation, and as an international community, to face these very difficult and tough challenges that are before us."

For more about the George C. Marshall Center visit www.marshallcenter.org.

Motorcycle Safety Foundation Experienced Riders Courses

June 15 – July 14 – August 10 – September 15

Anyone who applies for a USAREUR motorcycle license must present proof of having successfully completed this course within the previous three years.

Training offered by the Garmisch Military Police. Classes begin in the MP station conference room at 7 a.m. Proper riding equipment is required to take this course.

For more information visit the Garmisch Military Police station or call 440-3676/civ. 08821-750-3676.

For more about motorcycle safety see page 8

SUMMER SAFETY 2006



www.photos.com

Failing to pay attention for "just a second" can be a recipe for disaster in terms of kitchen fire safety. Youth should never cook unsupervised – and adults should never leave the area when the stove is in use.

Awareness, attention keys to kitchen fire safety

U.S. Army Garrison Stuttgart
Public Affairs Office

Home may be where the heart is, but for many Americans the failure to follow fire safety steps leads to heartbreaking results.

According to the U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission, the United States has one of the highest fire death and injury rates in the world. Fire is the second leading cause of accidental death in U.S. homes.

According to the CPSC Web site, more than 4,000 people die each year in home fires – with more than 90 percent of residential fire deaths and injuries resulting from fires in one- and two-family houses and apartments.

Fires also cause an annual loss of \$4 billion in property damage.

The CPSC notes that unattended cooking can be particularly dangerous, with cooking estimated to be associated with 100,000 fires, 400 deaths and 5,000 injuries each year.

The following steps can drastically reduce the risk to your home, your family and your community:

- **NEVER leave cooking unattended for any length of time.** (Leaving the kitchen for "just a moment" when cooking can be enough to cause a disaster.)

- Never place or store pot holders, plastic utensils or towels on or near the range.

- Roll up or fasten long loose sleeves with pins or elastic bands while cooking.

- Never put water on a grease fire. Water will splatter the grease and dramatically increase the size of the fire.

- Never try to carry a flaming grease fire outside. It will quickly be too hot to carry and you will certainly spread the fire over the entire area.

For more about fire safety visit the Web sites listed below or call the U.S. Army Garrison Stuttgart Safety Office at 421-2752/civ. 0711-729-2752.

Remember, parents: Child supervision is mandatory

USAG Stuttgart Public Affairs Office

Warmer weather brings with it a wealth of opportunities for families in Europe – but extra free time and hot weather can be dangerous when not taken in moderation. All parents in Stuttgart and Garmisch are being reminded of their responsibilities under the Installation Management Agency Europe Region Child Supervision Policy.

The IMA-EURO policy delineates child supervision responsibilities according to the grade of the child, not his or her age. (In the summer, children are considered to be in the grades they just completed).

Parents should be aware that the IMA-EURO policy mandates supervision in the following instances:

Children may be left alone at home for the following lengths of time:

- Fifth grade and below – NEVER
- Grades six and seven – Up to six hours with access to adult supervision (but NEVER overnight)
- Grades eight to 10 – May be left home alone, but NEVER overnight
- Grades 11 and 12 – May be left alone up to 48 hours, but adult must check on them every 12 hours

Children may be left unattended outside as follows:

- Below kindergarten age – NEVER
- Kindergarten to third grade – Only if in a playground or yard, and within sight or hearing distance of parent at all times.
- Grades four and five – In playgrounds or yards with ready access to an adult
- Grades six and seven – Up to six hours, with access to adult supervision
- Grades eight to 12 – Unlimited

Weather permitting, children may be left unattended in a vehicle according to the following schedule (though no one should ever be left in a vehicle during periods of hot weather):

- Below fourth grade – NEVER
- Grades four and five – Up to 10 min. (keys removed, handbrake applied)
- Grades six and seven – Up to 15 min. (keys removed, handbrake applied)
- Grades eight to 10 – Up to 20 min. (keys removed, handbrake applied)
- Grades 11 and 12 – Unlimited

Children may babysit according to the following schedule:

- Below sixth grade – NEVER
- Grade six – May babysit siblings for up to three hours with adult supervision readily available
- Grade 7 – Up to six hours with ready adult supervision (NEVER overnight)
- Grades eight to 10 – Up to 12 hours (NEVER overnight)
- Grades 11 and 12 – Unlimited

For more information about child supervision call Stuttgart's Army Community Service at 430-7176/civ. 0711-680-7176.

In Garmisch call ACS at 440-3777/civ. 08821-750-3777.

Home Safety Information Online

Fire Safety

www.firesafety.gov

U.S. Fire Administration

www.usfa.fema.gov/safety/

Nat'l Fire Protection Association

www.nfpa.org

Home Safety Council

www.homesafetycouncil.org

Environmental Protection Agency

www.epa.gov/epahome/home.htm

FirstGov: Your Home

www.consumer.gov/yourhome.htm

SafeKids

www.safekids.com

Safe Kids Worldwide

www.safekids.org

McGruff Homepage

www.mcgruff.org

ASPCA

www.asPCA.org

American Humane Society

www.americanhumane.org

Animal Aid of SW Michigan

www.animalaidsw.org

SAFE at HOME

SUMMER SAFETY 2006

Simple steps enhance vacation safety

By Hugh C. McBride

One of the highlights of an assignment in Europe is the opportunity to explore the continent's world-renowned treasures and destinations.

But before setting out on that dream vacation (or even those close-to-home weekend getaways), members of the overseas military community are advised to incorporate safety and force protection into their itineraries.

Monitor your machine

The first rule of travel should always be "Drive to Arrive."

Don't pull out of your driveway (or parking lot) until you've completed the following:

- Inspect tires (including the spare).
- Verify that all lights work.
- Ensure that windows and mirrors are crack-free and operational.
- Check your brakes (including emergency brake and brake lights).
- Measure all fluid levels and adjust if necessary.

On the road

The most important component of your car,

The most important component of your vehicle is the driver. Review the rules of the road. Ignorance of the law is no excuse.

truck or bike is the person in the driver's seat.

- Rest up before hitting the road. Driving while exhausted can be as dangerous as doing so while intoxicated.
- Review the rules of the road. Ignorance of the law is no excuse.

• Stay safe at every speed. Just because you can drive faster on some German roads doesn't mean you should. Keep your speed in line with traffic, weather and your own skill level.

For additional safety information online visit the U.S. Army Europe Web site at www.hqusaar.army.mil and select "Safety" from the menu across the top of the page.

Before you go: Safety checklist

The most important part of a trip can take place before you leave home. Never depart without ensuring that your vehicle is in full working order.

- ☐ **Tires** – At least 1.6 millimeters of tread over entire traction surface. No bulges, imbedded objects, cuts or breaks..
- ☐ **Lights** – All lights (including turn signals and license plate light) in working order; all lenses intact; no cracks or condensation behind lenses.
- ☐ **Windows & Mirrors** – No cracks, breaks or scratches that impair vision; windows go up and down; windshield wipers work.
- ☐ **Brakes** – Brake pedal does not travel more than halfway to floor; brake lights are operational; emergency brake functions properly.
- ☐ **Interior** – Horn and defrosters work; seatbelts are intact and functional; emergency kit is complete and accessible.
- ☐ **Under the Hood** – All fluids filled to appropriate levels; hoses are intact; battery is clean and fastened securely.
- ☐ **License/Decals/Insurance** – All paperwork and documentation is complete, up-to-date, and accessible.

Drinking, driving: A deadly combination

U.S. Army Garrison Stuttgart Public Affairs Office

It's hard to imagine how the statistics could be any clearer – the combination of alcohol and motor vehicles creates a recipe for tragedy. Consider the following (taken from the Centers for Disease Control Web site, www.cdc.gov/ncipc/factsheets/driving.htm):

- Alcohol-related motor vehicle crashes kill someone every 31 minutes and injure someone every two minutes.
- During 2004, 16,694 people in the U.S. died in alcohol-related motor vehicle crashes, representing 39 percent of all traffic-related deaths.
- In 2004, according to the U.S. Department of Justice, about 1.4 million drivers were arrested for driving under the influence of alcohol or narcotics. That's less than one percent of the 159 million self-reported episodes of alcohol-impaired driving among U.S. adults each year.
- Drugs other than alcohol (for example, marijuana and cocaine) are involved in about 18 percent of motor vehicle driver deaths. These other drugs are generally used in combination with alcohol.
- More than two-thirds of child passengers ages 14 and younger who died in alcohol-related crashes between 1997 and 2002 were riding with the drinking driver; only 32 percent of them were properly restrained at the time of the crash.
- Alcohol-related crashes in the United States cost about \$51 billion annually.

To combat the often tragic effects of driving while under the influence of alcohol or other drugs, a concerted effort is underway within the overseas military community. The U.S. Army Garrison Stuttgart Provost Marshal's Office's "Booze It and Lose It" law enforcement campaigns; U.S. Army Europe's "Own the Edge" risk assessment effort; and the education and rehabilitation services offered through the Army Substance Abuse Program are all aimed at halting the devastation wrought by the abuse of alcohol and other drugs.

With offices on Garmisch's Artillery Kaserne and Stuttgart's Panzer Kaserne, the ASAP effort incorporates a wide range of training opportunities focused not only on preventing substance abuse but also on equipping military and civilian supervisors with the tools to recognize and address substance abuse issues in the workplace.

For individuals who find themselves beyond the prevention phase, ASAP also provides a number of rehabilitation services, all of which are conducted by licensed and certified substance abuse professionals. These services are available to all U.S. identification cardholders who are eligible to receive military medical services (a category that includes family members and retirees).

In addition to substance abuse prevention and rehabilitation services, ASAP's Employee Assistance Program encompasses a variety of voluntary counseling options to help employees, retirees and family members cope with pressures that impede upon their personal and professional lives (including but not limited to issues such as domestic abuse and depression).



A hot summer night, a few cold beers and the open road – for too many Americans, this combination leads to tragedy. For members of the overseas military community, help is available – and law enforcement is on the lookout – for those who can't resist the urge to drink and drive.

Help is available

Don't wait for a tragedy to occur before taking steps to address the effects of substance abuse. For members of the Stuttgart and Garmisch military communities, help is at hand:

Army Substance Abuse Program (Garmisch) – 442-2584/civ. 08821-759-2584

Army Substance Abuse Program (Stuttgart) – 431-2743/civ. 07031-15-2743

Employee Assistance Program (Stuttgart) – 431-2530/civ. 07031-15-2530

Are you road-ready?

The U.S. Army Garrison Stuttgart Safety Office and Provost Marshal's Office are reminding all motorcyclists that Army Europe Regulation 190-1 establishes guidelines for operating motorcycles.

The following are required for military-affiliated bikers in Europe:

- Helmet that meets ANSI standard Z90 or Eu-

rope Norm 2-02.

- Full-fingered gloves.
- High-visibility (bright, reflective) garments.
- Leather boots or over-the-ankle shoes.
- Long sleeves.
- Trousers.

For more information about motorcycle safety call 421-2752/civ. 0711-729-2752 or 430-5262/civ. 0711-680-5262



Eye protection

Must be shatterproof, and must also meet VESC regulation standards.

Helmet

Must meet either ANSI standard Z90 or Europe Norm 2-02 and must be worn properly.

Reflective Vest

High-visibility (bright, reflective) garments are required. When riding while in uniform, a reflective vest is mandatory.

Clothing

Long sleeves and long pants are mandatory, as are full-fingered gloves.

Footwear

Sturdy, leather boots or over-the-ankle shoes are required. Sneakers are not acceptable.

photo courtesy U.S. Army Alaska Safety Office

Numbers to Know

Military Police: 114*

Stuttgart civ. 0711-680-114 / Garmisch civ. 08821-750-114

* Emergencies only. For non-emergencies call the MP desk:
Stuttgart: 430-5262/civ. 0711-680-5262
Garmisch: 440-3801/civ. 08821-750-3801

Ambulance: 116

Stuttgart civ. 0711-680-116 / Garmisch civ. 08821-750-116

Fire Department: 117

Stuttgart civ. 0711-680-117 / Garmisch civ. 08821-750-117

German Emergency Services

Police: 110 – Ambulance/Fire Department: 112
(Also, 112 can be accessed from any cell phone in Europe.)

Chaplain's Office

Stuttgart 430-5000/civ. 0711-680-5000 – Garmisch 440-2819/civ. 08821-750-2819

Family Advocacy Program

Stuttgart 430-7176/civ. 0711-680-7176 – Garmisch 440-2584/civ. 08821-750-2584

Installation Operations Center

Stuttgart 421-2601/civ. 0711-729-2601

Safety Office

Stuttgart 421-2752/civ. 0711-729-2752

Social Work Services

Stuttgart 431-2627/civ. 07031-15-2627

Road & Weather Conditions

Stuttgart 421-2474/civ. 0711-729-2474

ON THE ROAD

SUMMER SAFETY 2006

Hydration keeps hot-weather injuries at bay

By Melanie Casey

The warm summer sun may seem inviting, but overdoing physical activity during hot weather can cause a plethora of preventable physical ailments such as heat rash, heat cramps, heat exhaustion and heat stroke. Learning to discern the difference between the types of heat-related illnesses can help with both prevention and treatment.

Symptoms & Treatments

Heat rash is caused by sweating in a hot and humid environment. Symptoms include a cluster of small blisters in the neck, groin, under arms and breasts and in skin creases.

To treat heat rash, take a cool shower and apply baby powder with corn starch to the affected areas.

Heat cramps result from an excessive amount of salt loss from perspiration. Painful cramps in the major muscle groups, such as arms or legs, are indicative of this heat-related illness.

To treat heat cramps, drink cool water and rest in a shady or otherwise cool area.

Heat exhaustion is caused when an excessive amount of salt and water is lost from the body through perspiration.

Symptoms include profuse sweating, headache, weakness, nausea, cool skin and a tingling sensation in the extremities. Individuals suffering from heat exhaustion should drink water, elevate their feet, rest in the shade and seek medical attention immediately.

Heat stroke is a true medical emergency, because if left untreated it can be deadly.

Heat stroke is caused when the body's heat regulatory mechanism stops working, resulting in headache, dizziness,

delirium, weakness, red, hot skin and unconsciousness.

To treat, place the victim in a cool shaded area, soak his or her clothing in cool water, elevate his or her feet and call for medical help immediately.

Prevention

To prevent the onset of these heat-induced ailments, the U.S. Army Center for Health Promotion and Preventative Medicine - Europe recommends the following:

- **Drink plenty of fluids**

Increase intake no matter what your activity level is.

During hot weather, individuals need to drink more than their thirst may indicate, but avoid very cold drinks (they can cause stomach cramps) and alcoholic drinks (which cause fluid loss).

As a general guideline, drink two to four glasses (16 to 32 ounces) of fluids each hour during heavy exercise in a hot environment.

- **Replace lost salts and minerals.** Heavy sweating removes necessary salt and minerals from the body. To replace them, drink a sports drink or fruit juice during exercise or while working in the heat.

- **Do not take salt tablets** unless directed by your doctor.
- **Listen to your body.** If exertion makes your heart pound



www.photos.com

If your workout takes you outdoors this summer, be sure to dress appropriately, drink plenty of fluids and pay attention to your body's needs.

and leaves you short of breath or lightheaded, confused or weak, stop all activity and rest in a cool area.

Other tips to avoid succumbing to a heat-related illness this summer include the following:

- Avoid heavy meals at lunchtime.
- Wear weather-appropriate clothing.
- Maintain a well-balanced diet.
- Schedule outdoor activities during the cooler part of the day.

Ticks: the scourge of summer

By Melanie Casey

Ahh, summer. Warm weather, sunny skies, family vacations ... and ticks. In most climates, the summer season is synonymous with tick season. That means now – as tick season moves into in full swing – is a good time to learn about tick-borne pathogens and how to protect both people and pets from these pesky parasites.

There are more than 850 species of ticks worldwide, and 100 of them are capable of transmitting diseases to humans and pets.

According to the U.S. Army Center for Health Promotion and Preventive Medicine, the major threat of disease from ticks to humans in Europe comes from *Ixodes ricinus* (the European sheep tick) and *Ixodes persulcatus* (taiga tick), both of whom carry Tick-Borne Encephalitis and Lyme disease.

TBE, known in Germany as FSME (*Fruehsommermeningoenzephalitis*), is a viral infection of the central nervous system caused by a bite from an infected tick.

Infection can also occur by eating or drinking unpasteurized dairy products from infected animals.

TBE is not known to exist in the U.S., and is not directly transmitted from human to human.

Risk of TBE is greatest from

May to September – and the highest risk for tick bites is in wooded areas.

To avoid ticks altogether, CHPPM recommends taking the following steps:

- Wear light-colored clothing that covers legs and arms.
- Tuck pants into boots or socks; tuck shirts in at the waist.
- Apply insect repellents containing DEET to exposed skin (but do not use on infants under two months old).
- Always perform "tick checks" when coming in from wooded areas. Pay special attention to warm and hairy areas.
- Don't forget to check children and pets.

Not all ticks are infected with a disease, so just because an individual is bitten by a tick doesn't mean he or she will become infected.

If you spot a tick embedded in the skin, remove it immediately:

- Grasp the tick's mouth parts as close to the skin as possible with tweezers.
- Pull back slowly and steadily, as you would with a splinter. Be patient.
- Do not squeeze, jerk, rip or twist the tick.

If not done correctly, an embedded tick's mouthparts could be left in the skin and disease can still be transmitted.

For more information visit www.chppm.com or call 430-8610/civ. 0711-680-8610.



www.photos.com

Never swim alone – and always ensure you are in a safe, approved body of water before going in for a dip.

Stay safe in the water

U.S. Army Garrison Stuttgart
Public Affairs Office

Summer outdoor activities bring increased dangers to children and adults – and swimming can be one of the most hazardous for recreators of all ages.

Stuttgart and Garmisch have many popular public pools. But unlike public pools in the U.S., lifeguards are not often seen sitting on high chairs.

However, well-trained lifeguards are

on duty at all times in all public pools. When entering a pool, find the lifeguard office and the first-aid station.

If you do not understand any posted pool rules, ask for assistance.

Never swim alone, always know your limits, and watch out for all children under your supervision.

For approved swimming areas in Stuttgart call 421-2752/civ. 0711-680-2752. In Garmisch call 440-3595/civ. 08821-750-3595.



IN THE GREAT OUTDOORS

Don't wait until it's too late

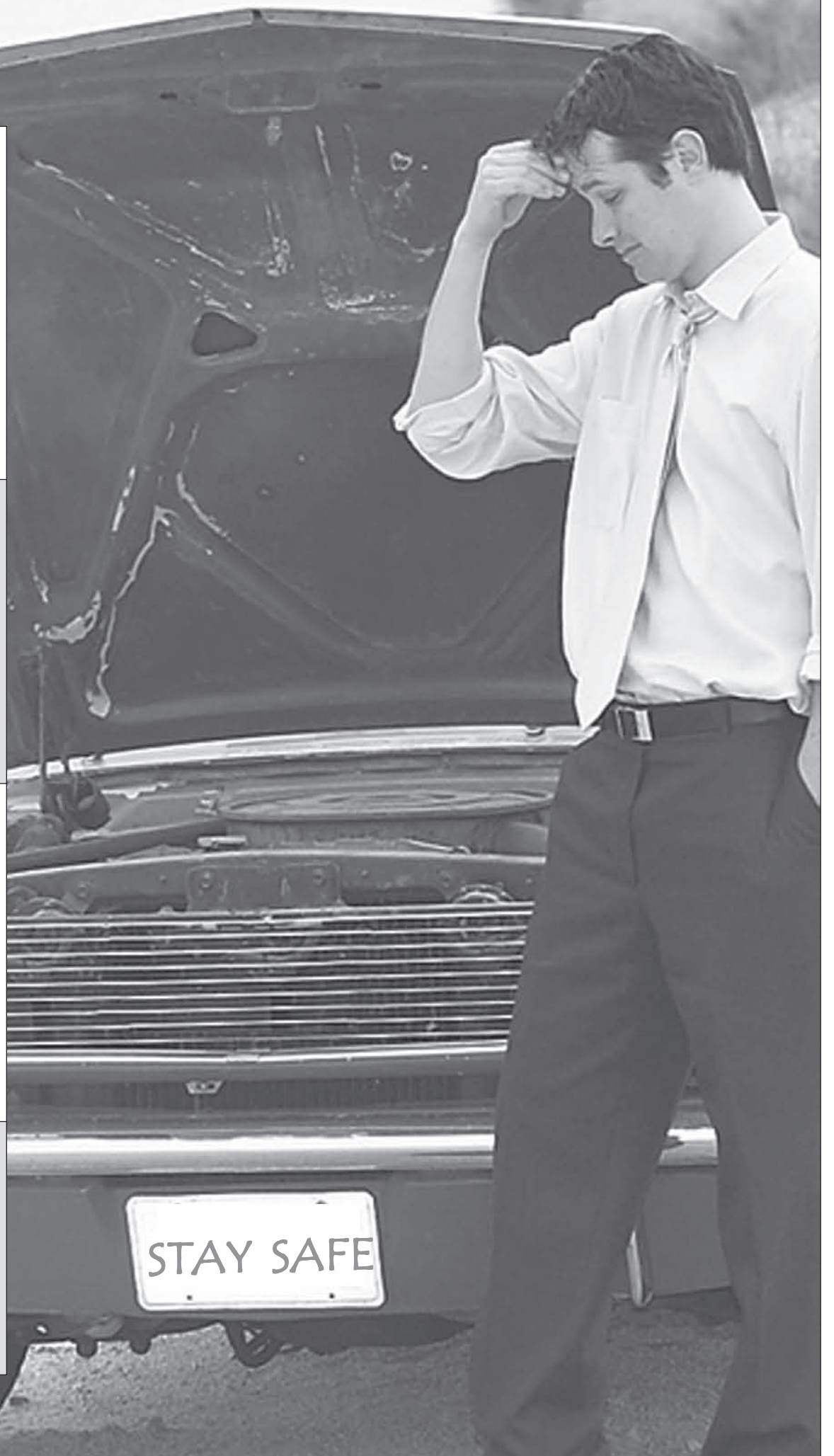
Free Car Safety Checks

June 26 & 27
9:30 a.m. to 1 p.m.
2 to 5 p.m.
Patch Shoppette

Shock Absorbers
Speedometers
Brakes

ADAC members pick two
Non-members pick one

For more information:
USAG Stuttgart Safety Office
DSN: 421-2752
CIV: 0711-729-2752



Exercise evaluates emergency response in Garmisch

Effort emphasizes effective German-American coordination

Story & photos by Sue Ferrare

The Soldiers and civilians of the Garmisch community got a valuable opportunity to train along side local national emergency response officials when the U.S. Army Garrison Garmisch conducted a force protection mass-casualty exercise on May 18.

The exercise tested the community's reaction to a simulated chemical attack on a building on Artillery Kaserne.

Sgt. Erika Jordan, USAG Garmisch personnel service sergeant, was one of the volunteer casualties who got a chance to see what was happening up close.

After being made up to look like she had a gash on her head, Jordan was told to act as if she couldn't breathe and was having a hard time seeing, two of the main symptoms of a chemical attack.

"They put us in certain positions throughout the building," she said. "We were told to wait for the MPs, and once they arrived we were told to start acting."

The exercise started around 7 p.m. when the Military Police received an anonymous call that there were victims at the gym, according to Capt. Victoria Peters of the USAG Garmisch Directorate of Emergency Services.

After sending out a patrol and receiving information back from that MP, calls went out to the German police, as well as various people in the community.

"The first ambulance arrived within five minutes of the first call going out," Peters said. "So that was fabulous response time. We wanted to practice successful coordination between host nation emergency responders and our emergency teams. We did fairly well with that."

The German fire department brought a hazardous materials truck to identify the poison in the air, she said, as well as an ambulance to set up a decontamination tent.

"Once they identified what the contaminant was, they let us know," Peters said. "They set up a decontamination unit based on what they found at the scene, and then the MPs and the fire department (in hazardous material suits) started evacuating victims to the decontamination tents."

Even though it was an exercise, ambulance and hospital workers fully "decontaminated" volunteer casualties.

"This is the first year ever that we have had the ambulance service and the hospital participating in the exercise," Peters said. "We were excited that they wanted to participate. It was also a good training exercise for them, and they all said that ... it gave them the experience of dealing with American victims and having to coordinate with U.S. resources."



German emergency personnel evacuate a volunteer U.S. victim during U.S. Army Garrison Garmisch's May 18 force protection mass-casualty exercise.

Overall, Peters said that the command was pleased with how the exercise went.

"It showed us that the communication between us and our host nation, and the host nation and the outside world, is really good," she said. "The flow of information was fabulous. I think it gives both the installation manager and the people in the community the comfort to know that we can talk to each other. I think this exercise definitely gave us areas to improve, but it showed us that there's a lot going right already."

"I think it was a good exercise for those involved and the ones that actually participated," Jordan said. "It showed us the importance of the MPs, the Pond's guards, and the German side as well — the role that they play. It keeps everybody involved in case something actually does happen."

Finally, Peters said that the exercise wouldn't have run as smoothly without the cooperation of the community.

"Any time you do an exercise, you tend to inconvenience, either by traffic flow or lights flashing or extra security that they have to go through to get on or off post," she said. "We

The flow of information was fabulous. I think this exercise definitely gave us areas to improve, but it showed us that there's a lot going right already.

Capt. Victoria Peters

*U.S. Army Garrison Garmisch
Directorate of Emergency Services*

appreciate their cooperation. We need them to realize that we need this time once every little while to make sure we know what we're doing."



photos by Sue Ferrare

Running for 'Fun' in Garmisch

Community members of various ages and experience levels demonstrated their commitment to fitness by walking, running or (as the photo at left documents) in some cases being pushed along a 5-kilometer route on Artillery Kaserne during Garmisch's May 20 Community Fun Run.

More than 70 individuals — all of whom received a commemorative T-shirt for their efforts — participated in the event, which was run under the auspices of Garmisch's Child and Youth Services Program.

Fun Run participants were fueled (and rewarded post-race) by sandwiches, cake and bottled water provided courtesy of AAFES, Subway and Celtic Water.

Spouses' Club scholarships offer financial boost to students, spouses in Stuttgart, Garmisch

By Hugh C. McBride

The road to further education just got a little bit smoother for 21 members of the Stuttgart and Garmisch military communities.

During ceremonies in each community, the Stuttgart Community Spouses Club and the Garmisch Community Spouses Club awarded scholarships to 19 high school students and two spouses. The clubs raise money throughout the year to support a wide range of community activities, including the scholarship programs.

"Spouses' organizations throughout the world have a history of serving their community," said Gail Simpson, who headed this year's scholarship effort for the Stuttgart club.

Evaluating the applicants, Simpson noted, seemed as difficult as the ongoing effort to raise funds for the cause. "I was amazed at all the activities these kids were involved in," she said. "I was tired after reading some of their applications."

As scholarship recipient Lisbeth Jacobs of Stuttgart saw it, the award she was receiving was much more than a check.

"This scholarship is the gift of education, and it will help me achieve a goal that I have been working for for a long time," she said.

In addition to the recipients shown at right, the following four community members (who were busy defending the Patch High School girls soccer team's DoDDS title when the Stuttgart event was held) also received scholarships:

- Kara Hogan
- Laura Elton
- Laura Ingold
- Kirsten Jackson

Also, Patch recipient David Scully was forced to decline his award, as he was recently accepted to attend the U.S. Air Force Academy.



Garmisch scholarship recipients Mitchell Tedesco (left) and Lauren Reed



Garmisch scholarship recipients Jennifer Wiegand (left) and Christian Kirkham



Garmisch scholarship recipients Taylor Spaulding (left) and David Micka



Stuttgart scholarship recipients Lisbeth Jacobs, Anastasia Glogowski, Christiane Robertson, Alex Taylor, Derek Taylor



Stuttgart scholarship recipients Raymond Mattox, David Scully, Katherine Arnold, Anne Temme, Chester Husk, Carey Bilyeau

Fourth-grade artists put creativity on display with community show on Patch Barracks

Story & photo by Brandon Beach



Barbara Kloss knows the merits of a right-brained education.

Students from her fourth-grade class transformed the Patch High School Forum into a modern day museum May 17 and held an art exhibit for the Stuttgart military community that traced a half year's worth of creative expression on canvas.

"I think students should be educated fully," said Kloss, a teacher at Patch Elementary School. "It's not just about academics. They should be allowed to use their creative side as much as possible."

Taking place shortly after the end of the school day, the event featured nearly 100 works of art, from felt tip landscapes to watercolor self portraits, displayed on numerous movable panels spread out around the large auditorium.

"When I walked in the door, I couldn't believe it resembled a real art show," said Staff Sgt. Hope Reales of Patch Barracks's EMSS and parent to 10-year-old Daisha Williams, who escorted her mother to a panel of flower sketches. "I never see her drawing at home, so to see her like this I'm like, 'Wow, my kid did that.'"

Jacob Treat seemed equally impressed by the crop of new talent and had already zeroed in on his favorite piece, an ocean landscape bordered by two deep-purple palm trees and a strik-

ingly golden horizon in the background.

"Man, it's good," said Treat, a former student of Kloss and now a PES fifth-grader, who recommended taking a few steps back. "If you stand far enough, it looks like the light reflects on the water."

Kloss employs a dynamic children's art program into her weekly lesson plans called "See for Yourself," which encourages kids to explore their personal expression through hands-on art activities.

"Every student sees things differently, so they are encouraged to paint what they see," said Kloss.

Music students from the International Baptist Church, located across from the Patch Barracks main gate, created a backdrop of subtle classical music during the event. In the corner of the Forum stage, school-aged children strummed melodies from well-known composers such as Schubert and Mozart on four large-standing harps.

In the middle of the exhibit, three large tables were decorated with fresh flowers, plates of fancy *hors d'oeuvres* and champagne glasses sparkling with white grape juice. Using their in-classroom kitchen, students selected recipes and prepared each of the delectable treats, an activity that Kloss said is incorporated into her classroom several times a month.

From cooking to sketching, Kloss's emphasis on hands-on learning has many parents as well as kids jazzed about her classroom dynamics.

"I think it's great," said 10-year-old Robert Russell of hosting an art exhibit on such a large scale. "I used to not be good at art, but I think my parents will be surprised with how well I improved this year."

Brittany Furst, who studies music at the International Baptist Church of Stuttgart (located near Patch Barracks) strums her harp during the fourth-grade art show May 17 in the Patch High School Forum.

A 'diamond day' in Stuttgart

Garrison hosts Sindelfingen Squirrels for evening of friendship through baseball

Story & photos by Hugh C. McBride

Norman Rockwell would have felt right at home May 17 on Stuttgart's Patch Barracks. Though the acclaimed artist's Americana-infused illustrations focused on, well, *America*, Rockwell would likely have found much to his liking on the crisp and clear spring evening in Germany, as the U.S. Child and Youth Services Sports and Fitness Senior Level Team took on the visiting Sindelfingen Squirrels. As the teams gathered on the diamond, the smell of sizzling burgers and dogs wafted through the air, intermingling with the crack of the bat and the familiar melody of "Take Me Out to the Ballgame."

The evening, said U.S. Army Garrison Stuttgart Commander Col. Kenneth G. Juergens, was an opportunity to celebrate "two great traditions — our German-American friendship and America's greatest national pastime: baseball."

Juergens, who hosted the cross-cultural contest, said the game was a continuation of a decades-long effort to enhance the cooperative relationship that Germany and the United States have forged since the end of World War II.

"The friendships forged between the Germans who live here and the Americans who are stationed here are not only rewarding, but historic," Juergens said. "And what better way to celebrate over 60 years of working and living together than with a friendly game of baseball?"

Dr. Joachim Wolf, sports director for the city of Sindelfingen, concurred with Juergens's remarks, calling the game "a significant contribution to strengthen our German-American friendship."

Noting that Sindelfingen's track and soccer stadium was planned and built 52 years ago "with great support from the American forces," Wolf said that sports have played an integral role in German-American relations.

"For more than 50 years, sports has offered a great platform for developing and maintaining the traditionally excellent relationship between the city of Sindelfingen and the American forces stationed in our neighborhood," he said.

Though the evening may have been adorned with a number of international overtones, once the teams took to the field the focus was on balls and strikes, hits and outs.

Though the home team jumped out to a quick lead, the Squirrels kept the game competitive, including turning an aborted suicide squeeze into a dramatic steal of home.

Eight-and-a-half innings after Stuttgart's J.D. Lindsey fired the first pitch of the game, the Americans emerged with an 8-5 victory — but the Germans felt far from defeated.

"This has been a great experience for our team," said Squirrels Coach Kenneth Hudson. "The kids were really excited about coming here, and [this game] will help them in the [German] regular season."

And though the action on the field was exciting, it was a moment in the bleachers that convinced the game's host that it was all worthwhile.

"As I stood and listened to all those German fans singing 'Take Me Out to the Ballgame,' I knew we had accomplished what we set out to do," Juergens said.



[Above] The grill — and those who staffed the grill — got a workout during the May 17 game.

[Left] Dr. Joachim Wolf, sports director for the city of Sindelfingen, throws one of two ceremonial first pitches to Stuttgart's Will Coggins. Following Wolf's throw, Special Operations Command Europe Commander Maj. Gen. Thomas Csrnko fired a strike to Sindelfingen Squirrels catcher Gianni Ferraro.

[Top] Stuttgart's Derrick Hamilton is the picture of focus as he prepares to make contact with a Sindelfingen pitch.

See more photos of the game online at www.stuttgart.army.mil.



Cobblestone Classic 2006

Women

Under 20: Stephanie Moore
20-29: Charlotte Everhardt
30-39: Chateau Venable
40-49: Leslie Jones
50 & Over: Cristina Michta

*Congratulations to all
age-group winners!
For information about
upcoming races call
430-4512/civ. 0711-680-4512.*

Men

Under 20: Derek Taylor
20-29: Andrew Mark
30-39: Doug Hutcheson
40-49: Joe Gallagher
50 & Over: Marty Smith



[Left] Overall women's winner Chateau Venable

[Right] Overall men's champion Doug Hutcheson

Byrnes Institute hosts U.S. ambassador

Story & photo by Hugh C. McBride

The Honorable Robert R. Timken Jr., the U.S. ambassador to Germany, was the guest of Stuttgart's Deutsch Amerikanisches Zentrum/James F. Byrnes Institute for a May 18 lecture and discussion on "German-American Relations in the Merkel Era."

Several representatives of U.S. Army Garrison Stuttgart and U.S. European Command – including USAG Stuttgart Commander Col. Kenneth G. Juergens – attended the event, which was co-hosted by Dr. Günter Baumann, president of Stuttgart's Chamber of Commerce and Industry, and Rudolf Bäumler, state secretary for Baden-Württemberg.

"We in the Stuttgart military community really appreciate the Byrnes Institute's efforts to host cultural events such as this evening with Ambassador Timken," Juergens said. "This was a tremendous opportunity to hear the ambassador's perspective on German-American relations and to exchange ideas with our host-national friends and partners."

Both during his speech and in discussions

afterward, Timken emphasized the efforts of both U.S. President George W. Bush and German Chancellor Angela Merkel to strengthen the friendship that exists between their nations.

"Both the German-American and the broader transatlantic relationship have improved considerably because of an increased emphasis on discussion and dialogue," he said. "It started with President Bush's trip to Mainz and Brussels last February, and under Chancellor Merkel's leadership, momentum has picked up."

Timken also spoke about his belief in the power of the free market system and the crucial roles that Germany and the United States play in expanding the economic opportunities inherent in this system.

"I, like President Bush, am optimistic that, working together, Germany and the United States can be major drivers in building a better future for our citizens and for the whole world," he said.

For more about the DAZ visit www.daz.org.
For upcoming events see "Out & About" below.



USAG Stuttgart Commander Col. Kenneth G. Juergens discusses German-American relations with Ambassador Robert R. Timken and his wife, Sue, following Timken's May 18 speech on the topic.

'Kinderspiel' exhibit displays toys, games created by impoverished youth

Story & photo by Brandon Beach

Every child reflects the motion of daily life through play. That is the focus of the Linden Museum's new exhibit "Kinderspiel," which catalogues some 300 original toys and games from children living in numerous countries throughout Africa, Asia and South America.

Unlike consumer-related toys, these trinkets are born from the hands and minds of youth living, at times, under very impoverished conditions.

Behind each of these toys, be it a Sanyo radio etched out of a block of wood or a helicopter pieced together from soda cans and chicken wire, is a child commenting on the events around them.

"These children grow up under very difficult circumstances," said Katrin Kobler, spokesperson for the museum. "But their creativity seems to go unbounded. In every toy, you see the personal story of a child."

The collection is the result of a decade's worth of research by Dr. Fritz Trupp, an Austrian ethnologist. Many of the photographs taken from his extensive travels into third-world communities are found throughout the exhibit and put a face behind each of these elaborate toys.

In addition to the apparent imagination infused in each of these objects, the toys also represent a great deal of technical craftsmanship, seen especially in the movable doors, hoods and wheels seen in the cars.

"It is so impressive to see how developed and progressive these toys really are," said Kobler.

Besides myriad buses, helicopters and other toys, the exhibit also has many interactive stations for both adults and children. Just to the left of the entrance and behind a large white sheet, visitors can perform shadow skits using African marionette puppets made from wood.

In the back of the exhibit, there is a hands-on children's workshop where kids, inspired by the exhibit, can create their own toys using recycled objects such as milk cartons, yogurt cups, toilet paper tubes and wine corks.

"For centuries, toys and playing has been part of human culture all over the world," said Kobler. The exhibit is a reminder to see the world through a child's eyes.

Started as a private institution with a focus in cultural research, the museum dates back to 1911. It is named after



This miniature movie set is one of many intricate and imaginative toys and games – all created by impoverished youth – that are currently on display in the Linden Museum's "Kinderspiel" exhibit.

Karl Graf von Linden, the institute's first president, who collected many of the objects still seen today. He is credited with inviting many famous explorers to Stuttgart at the time, such as Sven Hedin of Sweden and Roald Amundsen of Norway, who led the first expedition to the South Pole in 1911.

Unfortunately as was the case with most of the city's visible landmarks, British bombers completely leveled the museum during World War II. Many of its most valuable objects though were moved underground to avoid serious damage.

The city rebuilt the museum in the late 1950s, and today, the Lindenmuseum stands as one of the foremost ethnological museums in the world.

How to get there

- The museum is located at *Hegel Platz* 1 several blocks by foot from Stuttgart's *Hauptbahnhof* (main train station) and right behind the *Liederhalle*, a concert hall home to the *Stuttgarter Philharmoniker*. The museum has no parking facilities, so it's best to hop on a city train (take U9 to *Berliner Platz* or U14 to *Keplerstrasse*).

- Hours are Tuesdays to Sundays 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., with additional viewing hours on Wednesdays until 8 p.m.

- Cost is 3 euro for adults, while children under 4 years old are free. Take advantage of the free entrance offer on Wednesdays after 5 p.m.

- Tours are available in English for large groups and classes and may be scheduled ahead of time by calling 0711-2022-579. For more information visit www.lindenmuseum.de.

OUT & ABOUT

D-A Zentrum June Events

Stuttgart's Deutsche-Amerikanisches Zentrum will host the following events (in English) in June and July:

- The DAZ hosts an **English play group** with Dawn M. Morris Tuesdays according to the following schedule: Ages 3 to 5 (3 to 4 p.m.); ages 6 to 8 (4 to 5 p.m.)

The fee per term is 40 euro per child (non-DAZ members) or 25 euro per child (DAZ members).

- The DAZ debuts a **Writing Workshop** June 10, 10 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. If you are – or would like to be – a writer, this could be the place for you.

For details e-mail Karenne Sylvester at writersinstuttgart@yahoo.com.

- In honor of the 100th anniversary of the birth of acclaimed U.S. director Billy Wilder, Professor Eric H. Denton, PhD, will host a lecture/discussion "**One, Two, Three/Goodbye Lenin! and Conversations with Cameron Crowe**," June 21, 7:30 p.m.

Denton, a Fulbright Senior Professor of American and German Studies at the Universität Regensburg, will discuss Wilder's unbroken artistic influence on young American filmmakers.

(For those unfamiliar with Wilder's "One, Two, Three," the DAZ will screen the film June 20, 7:30 p.m.)

- The **Baltimore Beauties hand-sewing quilting group** will meet June 23, 9 a.m. to noon, in the DAZ. This multilingual group always welcomes newcomers and guests.

- For more information about the events listed above – or any other DAZ-related issues – call 0711-22-81-80 or e-mail info@daz.org.

Weindorf on the Schlossplatz

The Stuttgart Wine Village returns to Schlossplatz June 9 to July 9 and features more than 350 wines from the Baden-Württemberg region. This year's festival runs alongside the FIFA World Cup tournament.

Enjoy a plate of *Maultaschen* (meat and spinach stuffed in pasta pockets), a glass of Riesling and cheer on your favorite national team.


Photo exhibit at Rotebühlplatz

The *vhs photogalerie* hosts the exhibit "Tango Metropole" with works from internationally-acclaimed photo artist Thomas Kellner. His works snap a new look on modern architectural landmarks.

The exhibit opens June 21.

The gallery, at Rotebühlplatz 28, is open Mondays to Saturdays, 8 a.m. to 11 p.m., and Sundays, 9 a.m. to 6 p.m.

For more information visit www.vhs-photogalerie.de.

A close-up photograph of a young man with short, dark, curly hair, smiling warmly at the camera. He is wearing a light pink polo shirt. The background is a solid, dark brown color.

*What made you
smile today?
We'd like to
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